

The CMS ECAL Barrel HV system

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The CMS ECAL Barrel HV system

On behalf of the CMS collaboration

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ABSTRACT: The CMS electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL) comprises 75848 scintillating lead tungstate crystals. 61200 crystals are contained in the ECAL Barrel section and are read out by avalanche photodiode (APD) with internal gain of about 50. This gain is achieved with a high voltage (HV) of about 400 Volts. The gain stability requirement implies a supply voltage stable to within 0.01%. We describe our experience with the installed Barrel HV power supply system, which has been used for data taking since 2008.

KEYWORDS: Voltage distributions; Calorimeters

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1 The CMS ECAL Barrel HV system

The Electromagnetic Calorimeter (ECAL) used in the CMS [1] experiment at the LHC uses scintillating crystals to detect and measure the energy of photons and electrons produced in the collisions. The light produced is read out in the barrel part by Avalanche Photodiodes (APD) that needed to be appropriately biased to a voltage of about 400 Volts with high stability and ultra low noise figures. In 1998, when the INFN Roma group took the responsibility to develop such ECAL subsystem, the required electrical performance was present in “state of the art” laboratory power supplies but it was not possible, using such devices, to build in a reliable way a large scale system as required to bias 122400 APDs. For this reason it was necessary to develop a dedicated high voltage system with the required electrical specification for the output voltage and current, and engineered to host 1124 HV channels, each with the possibility to be controlled and monitored remotely through Ethernet connection.

1.1 The CMS ECAL barrel

The barrel part of CMS ECAL (see figure 1) comprises 61200 lead tungstate (PbWO_4) crystals whose scintillation light is detected using APDs produced by Hamamatsu Photonics [2, 3]. Two APDs are used for each crystal (see figure 2). A dedicated high voltage (HV) power supply system is used to bias the APDs. The performance of the calorimeter can be described in terms of the energy resolution expressed as a function of the incident electron/photon energy by the following formula:

$$\frac{\sigma_E}{E} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{E}} \oplus \frac{b}{E} \oplus c \quad (1.1)$$

where the first is the stochastic term, the second is the electronic noise term and the third is the so-called constant term, which includes contributions from calibrations and instabilities. Possible APD gain stability will contribute to the constant term, since the gain of the APDs depend from HV stability, the HV system characteristics directly influence the ECAL energy resolution.

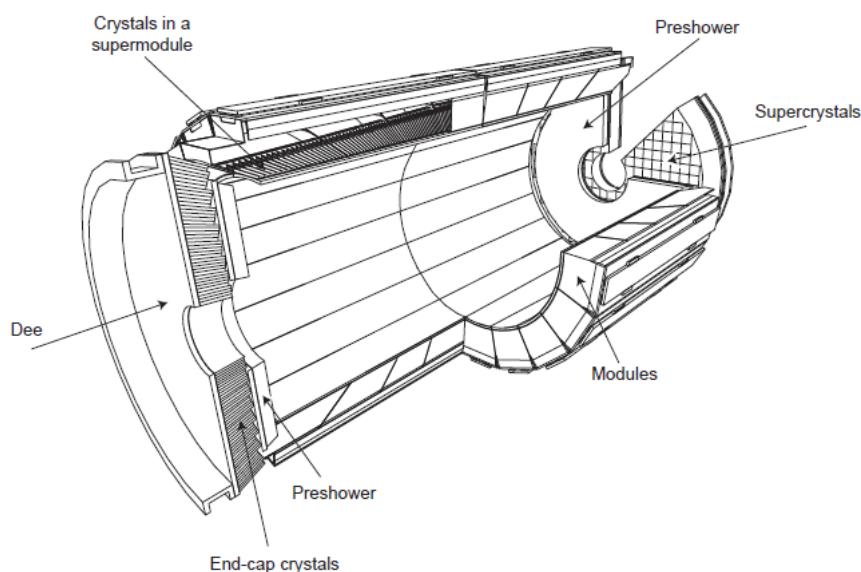


Figure 1. The CMS Electromagnetic Calorimeter (ECAL). The barrel section comprises 36 supermodule, each containing 4 modules.

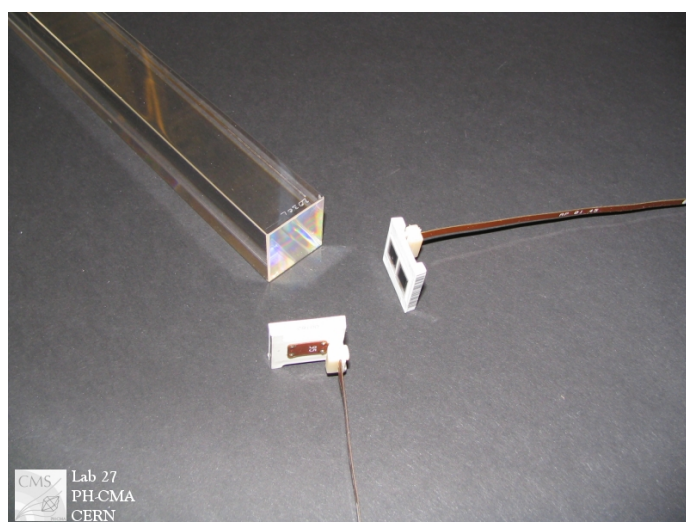


Figure 2. A crystal (PbWO_4) used in the CMS ECAL with a “capsule” hosting two Avalanche Photodiodes (APD).

1.2 HV requirements

The APDs (see figure 3 and table 1) in CMS are operated at a gain 50, requiring a high (bias) voltage in the proximity of the breakdown region (350–450 Volts).

The APD gain variation is about 3.1%/Volts at gain 50 and the contribution of this gain variation to the ECAL energy resolution constant term is required to be less than 0.2%. This implies that the high voltage stability has to be of the order of 60–65 mV.

This requirement places constraints on the combination of electrical system characteristics including noise, ripple, voltage regulation and absolute precision, for short and long-term periods.

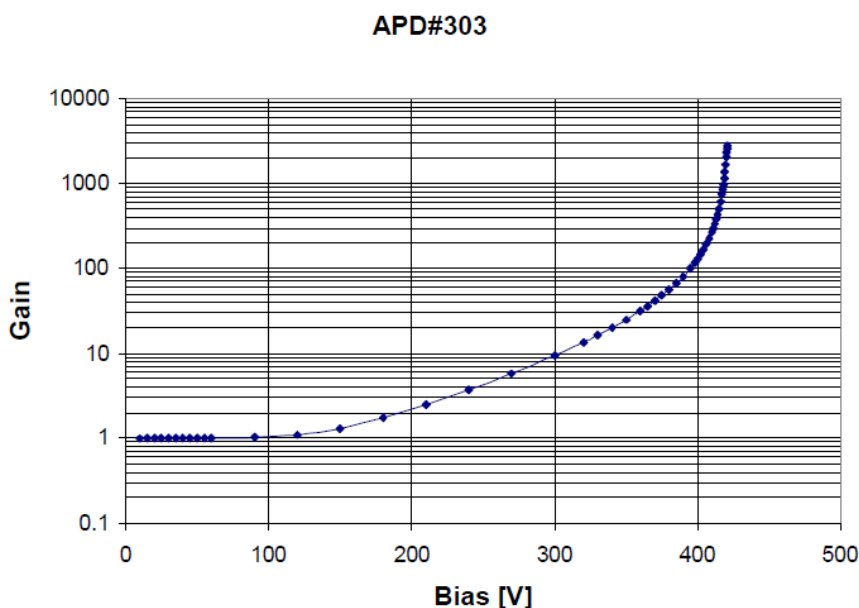


Figure 3. Typical APD gain vs. Bias Curve.

Table 1. APD characteristics and numbers.

Parameter	
Maximum operating voltage	500 V
Minimum operating voltage	200 V
Leakage current (start of experiment)	$< 0.01 \mu\text{A}$
Leakage current (after 10 years)	$< 20 \mu\text{A}$
dM/dV gain sensitivity (at gain $M = 50$)	3.1%/V
APDs used in the ECAL barrel	122400

1.3 The HV system

The CMS ECAL HV power supply system was developed starting from 1999 by INFN Roma group in collaboration with CAEN Company¹ [4, 5]. The system was installed in 2008 in 6 racks in the CMS Underground Service Cavern (USC) (see figure 4) where no damage to the electronics circuits due to radiation is foreseen.

It is composed of 18 CAEN SY1527 mainframes, hosting 144 A1520E modules for a total of 1224 HV channels.

Since APDs are sorted to have similar Voltage bias (V_{bias}) for gain 50, each HV channel is used to bias 100 APDs (50 capsules and related crystals). Sense wires are used to compensate cable voltage drop. Each capsule receives the bias voltage through a passive filter network and a protection resistor (of 136 kOhm) to avoid losing all the APDs sharing the same HV channel, in case of a short circuit between one APD cathode and the HV ground (see figure 5).

¹CAEN Viareggio www.caen.it.



Figure 4. Half of the CMS ECAL Barrel HV system in the USC.

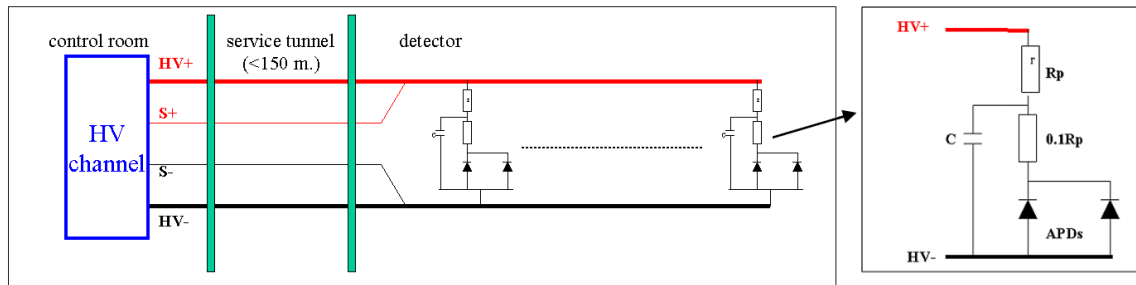


Figure 5. CMS-ECAL APD power supply architecture. 50 capsules (each containing 2 APDs) share the same HV channel. They receive the bias voltage through a protection resistor (R_p) and a RC filter network.

It is possible to set the output voltage in the range 0 V–500 V with a maximum output current of 15 mA per channel (see table 2).

During the CMS beam test activities performed in 2004 and 2006, the compliance of the HV system to the performance requested by the ECAL energy resolution was proven [6].

Before installation in CMS each channel was tested [5] in a dedicated test-bench. Channels not compliant with the required 65 mV stability over 30 days were not used (see figure 6).

Table 2. HV Channel electrical characteristics.

Parameters	
Output voltage range	0–500 V
Programmable setting step	20 mV
DC regulation at load	$< \pm 20$ mV
DC stability at load (over 90 days)	$< \pm 20$ mV
Low freq. noise at load ($f < 100$ kHz)	$< \pm 20$ mV
High freq. noise at load ($f > 100$ kHz)	$< \pm 20$ mV
Operating temperature at supply	$15 \div 40^\circ\text{C}$
Current limit	15 mA
On and off maximum ramp rate	50 V/sec.
External calibration	$< \pm 20$ mV

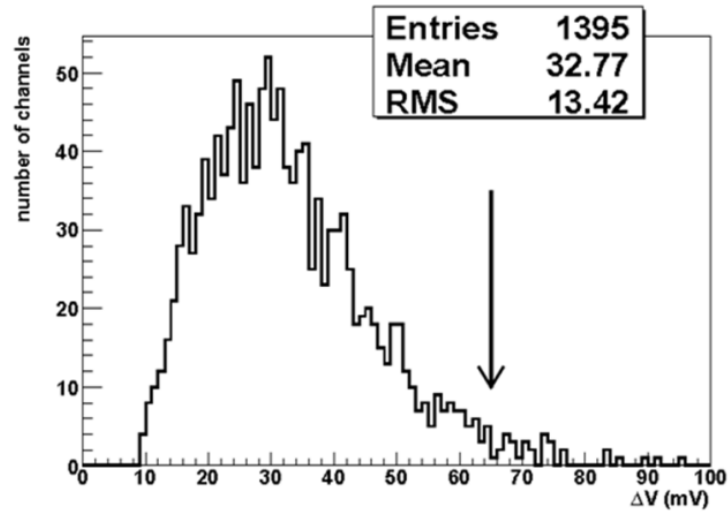


Figure 6. HV Channels stability test result. Absolute values of the measured deviations from the desired output voltage at the end of the test (30 days) are shown for all the channels under test. HV channels with $\Delta V > 65$ mV were not used.

2 The ECAL Barrel HV system performance during the first 3 years of operation in CMS

Since the very beginning, during the commissioning phase [7], and then during operation with beams, the HV system was monitored and controlled (reading and setting of all individual channel parameters: status, output voltage, output current, etc.) by the ECAL Detector Control System (DCS) over Ethernet. The DCS continuously checks critical parameters, generating warnings and alarms to the CMS control room and to the ECAL experts if necessary.

A team of HV experts, who are on-call during CMS operation, promptly repairs failures and provides routine maintenance.

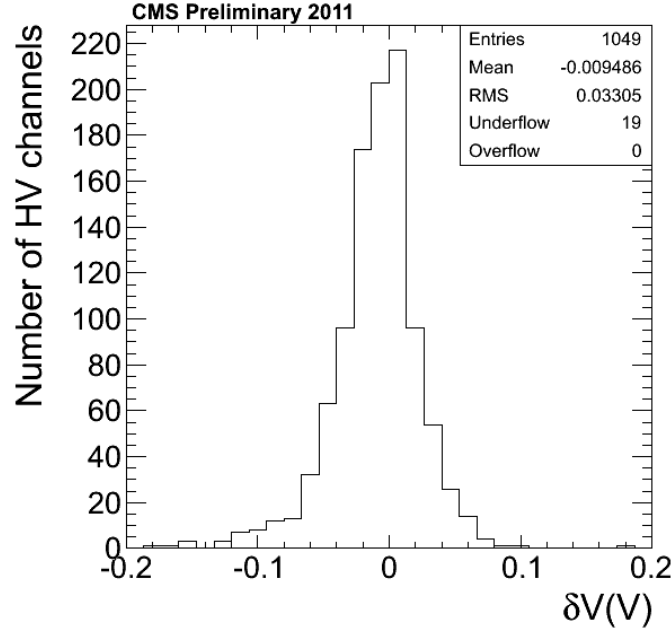


Figure 7. HV Channels voltage stability during 2011 run. In the plot the δV channel distribution is shown.

Periodically, during the LHC winter stop, a calibration of all channels is performed using a dedicated external system, to guarantee an absolute voltage precision with an accuracy of ± 20 mV.

2.1 HV stability

During the past three years the HV system stability has been measured using data taken during the periodical calibration.

The HV system is calibrated once or twice a year with dedicated electronics that allows us, before the calibration of each channel, to measure the output voltage deviation at 380 Volt using a 6^{1/2} digit digital multi-meter.

Using calibration data taken at the beginning of the 2012, the output voltage deviations during 2011 are estimated to be 33 mV (RMS) as shown in figure 7.

Taking into account the gain dependence of APD gain from bias voltage of:

$$\delta \text{Gain} / \text{Gain} = \beta \delta V \quad \beta = 3.1\% / \text{Volt} \quad (\text{at gain } 50)$$

an estimate has been made of the effective APD gain stability in 2011. The estimate includes partial corrections to changes in gain from measurements from the ECAL laser monitoring system that are incorporated in the response corrections to data.

Such measurements show excellent performance, corresponding to an APD gain stability of better than 0.2% for > 97% of channels (see figure 8).

2.2 APD Dark Current increase

The DCS monitors the APD dark current evolution due to the radiation damage (see figure 9). Different values of pseudo-rapidity for APDs imply different value of neutron radiation dose and

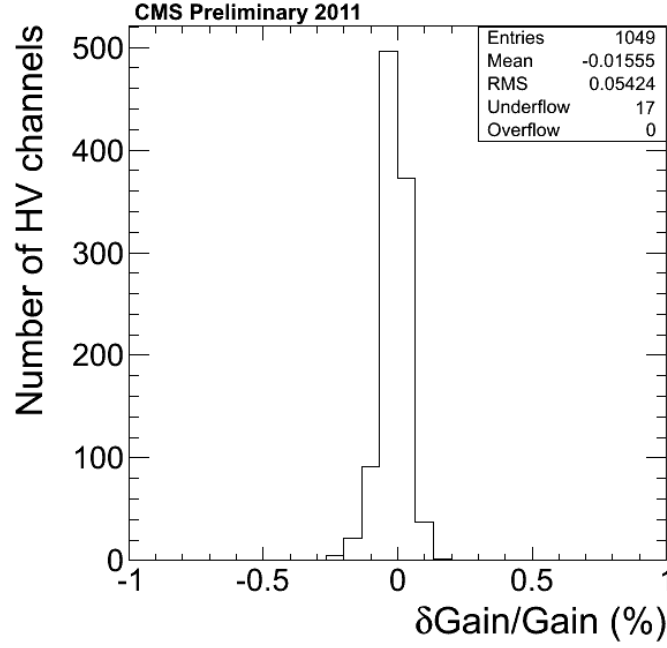


Figure 8. The gain deviation for all HV channels measured after one year of data taking (2011). These gain instabilities due to the APD HV are at the 0.05% level after correction via the laser system.

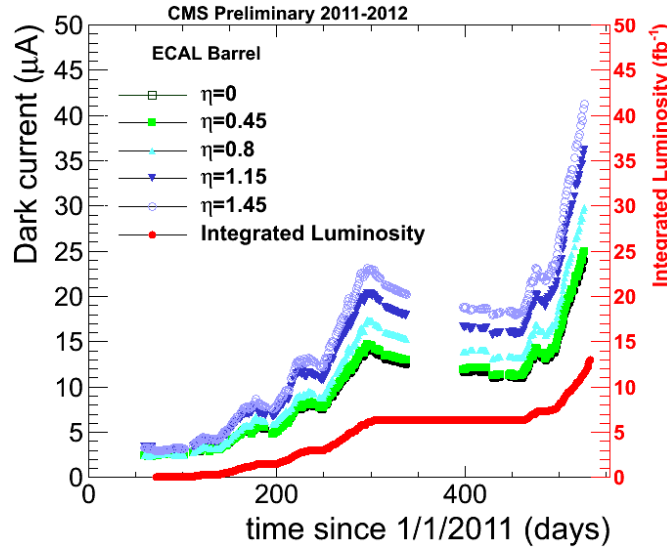


Figure 9. The plot shows the APD dark current (for 1 HV Channel = 100 APDs) increase during the 2011 & 2012 runs and corresponding integrated luminosity (red points). The different blue/green colors represent the channels located at different pseudo-rapidity in one ECAL Supermodule (1700 crystals).

hence of increase in dark current (dependence from η in figure 9). Recovery from damage can be observed from the decrease in dark current during the LHC winter stop.

The leakage currents are consistent with the expectations from the system design phase corresponding to a maximum current per HV channel of $< 2 \text{ mA}$ after 500 fb^{-1} integrated luminosity.

3 Conclusion

The High Voltage system developed for the barrel part of the CMS ECAL has been described in this paper. The HV system has operated successfully during the first 3 years of operation in CMS. The APD gain stability is better than 0.2% for 97% of all channels, which meets the specification required for limiting the impact on the ECAL energy resolution. The increase in APD dark current is in line with expectations.

Acknowledgments

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